

MEASLES 6/1/16

The Arizona Department of Health Services, Maricopa County Department of Public Health and Pinal County Public Health Services District have confirmed 11 cases of measles stemming from the outbreak at the private detention center in Eloy. The Yuma County Public Health Services District is working closely with the Arizona Department of Health Services to follow up on any individuals who are identified as potential exposures. In addition we will work closely with any Yuma County health care provider or facility that identifies a suspect or confirmed measles case.

As previously stated by Dr. Cara Christ, Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services, it is extremely important that : "People who have a rash and fever call their healthcare provider or emergency department before going to let them know they may have measles. This is vital to help stop further spread of the disease."

Measles symptoms appear 7 to 12 days after exposure but may take up to 21 days. It begins with fever (101 F or higher), red, watery eyes, cough and runny nose and is followed by a rash that is red, raised, and blotchy. The rash begins on the face at the hairline and moves down the body. The rash may last five to six days.

What to do if you think you have measles:

- If you have a healthcare provider, contact him/her by phone and let them know that you may have been exposed to measles. They will let you know when to visit their office so as not to expose others in the waiting area.
- If you do not have a health care provider, you may need to be seen at your local hospital emergency room or urgent care center. Please call before going to let them know you may have measles.

You are immune to measles if you have received two measles, mumps, and rubella [MMR] vaccines or were born before 1957 and have received one MMR vaccine. Health care providers are required to report suspect cases of measles to their local health department.

The Health District will provide updates and additional information on potential public exposures and any confirmed cases as information becomes available.

For information on signs and symptoms of measles, or where you can find vaccine, please visit StoptheSpreadAZ.com. Medical questions should be directed to your health care provider.

Providers should:

Take precautions to ensure your patients are not exposed by:

- Posting the attached signage outside of your facility with surgical masks available

- Having patients with febrile rash illness report to a back door or provide the last appointment of the day to prevent exposing other patients
- Having suspect cases wear surgical masks in common areas when airborne isolation is not available
- Immediately mask and place patients presenting with a febrile rash illness in airborne isolation if available, obtain vaccine and travel history.
- Consider measles as a diagnosis for patients with a febrile rash illness and immediately report this to your local health department.
- Coordinate with your local health department for specimen collection, transport, and testing for suspect measles cases.
- Make sure your staff is fully immunized.
- Healthcare workers should receive two doses of MMR, regardless of year of birth, unless they have documentation of previous immunity.

To report cases or for additional information, please contact your local health department:

<http://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/index.php#resources-county>

A measles surveillance toolkit for healthcare facilities is available at

<http://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/measles/measles-surveillance-toolkit.pdf>

For more information on this situation, please visit the ADHS public information website at

<http://azdhs.gov/director/public-information-office/index.php#releases-adhs>

For more information on measles, please visit the ADHS measles webpage at

<http://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/measles/index.php>